Volume 9, Number 3 June 1979

WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER

DEVOTED TO WESTERN STATES EXONUMIA

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Bill Williges

Published by
WESTERN STATES TOKEN SOCIETY

The WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER is the official publication of the Western States Token Society, an informal, educational, non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating and maintaining interest in the tokens, medals and other exonumia of the Western states.

WESTS was founded in 1971 as the California Token Society, but in the same year the name was changed to the California-Nevada Token Society to reflect the interests of its members. In 1975, the scope of interest was expanded to include all the Western states, and starting in 1977, the name was changed again to its present form--Western States Token Society.

= MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION =

Dues: Dues are $7.50 per year, paid in advance. Members receive the WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER as well as other benefits. Those joining in mid-year receive the back issues for that year. Back issues of the LEDGER, as available, may be obtained from the Assistant Editor for 75¢ per copy, postpaid. Address changes should be reported to the Secretary-Treasurer.

Meetings: WESTS holds two general membership meetings each year--one in the spring (usually in San Francisco) and the other in the fall (usually in Stockton). Additionally, local membership meetings are arranged often by various members. All meetings are publicized in the LEDGER. Interested persons are invited to attend any of the meetings.

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WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER

MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS

SUNDAY, JULY 15 - Combination meeting of Western States Token Society and Bay Area Token Society at the home of Shannon and Duane Feisel, 869 Gardenia Way, Los Altos, California.

(Note: Since this issue is a few days later than was anticipated, special notices were mailed out on the above meeting to those members who would be most interested. If you failed to receive a notice, and you were interested in the meeting, we apologize. See elsewhere in this issue for a report on the meeting.)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 - Regional WESTS meeting in the recreation room of the apartment complex of Vince Beretta, 6000 Greenback Lane, Sacramento, CA. Noon until 5 PM. Getting there is simple as there is an exit from I-80 to Greenback Lane (turn right) about half way between Sacramento and Roseville. So the address is really not Sacramento, but at least it is in the vicinity of the capitol city. The apartment complex is about ½ mile from I-80 on the right-hand side. The Sacramento meetings are usually well-attended, and this should be a good time to renew exonumia activities after a summer of leisure!

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY - September 29-30. METCA-sponsored Fall Pacific Northwest Token and Medal Show in the Seattle, Washington, area. The meeting details have not yet been completed. Jim Rasmussen has sugggested that he would be interested in forming a car pool to drive up to that meeting, and requests that any others interested get in touch with him and he will coordinate things. In light of the energy shortage, especially gasoline, this seems to be a practical thing to do. If this appeals to you get in touch with Jim. Who knows, we might even have a couple of cars going up!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27. Tentative. Regional meeting of Western States Token Society at the California State Numismatic Association convention at the Sheraton-Anaheim Hotel, Santa Ana Freeway at Ball Road. The arrangements for this meeting are being made by Bob Marvin who will be contacting other collectors for an indication of interest and possible help.

A big attraction for attending this convention is the fact that Joel E. Malter & Co., Inc., will feature a large selection of California trade checks, tokens and

medals during their auction. Details of this auction are not yet known. More on this possible meeting at a later time.

MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS MEETINGS

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8 JULY 1979: - It seems that I am continually between trips. Tomorrow morning I leave for New York for a week, and won't be home a week after that before leaving for ANA in St. Louis.

Since preparing the last Ledger, I have transferred about half my medal collection from vinyl to paper envelopes, using the heavy stock grey-colored envelopes sold by Bebee's, amongst others (see Numismatic News or Coin World for their ads). These seem adequate to hold large-size medals without falling apart. Ordinary envelopes will suffice for tokens. As I proceed with this, I continue to find more oozy vinyls, including some of the supposedly leakproof double-pocket flips.

At present, I have only one short article in reserve for the next Ledger. So please send me something, all articles are wanted, and wanted now. Send them to me, Steve Album, P.O. Box 7386, Santa Rosa CA 95401. NOW!

In the last Ledger, you may have noticed two separate notes on amusement arcade tokens, suggesting that new discoveries be reported to two different persons. Actually, Steve Alpert is writing the catalogue (now allegedly at the printers, soon to be available), while Bob Null has been listing the current pieces. Steve's work includes all amusement tokens, from all states and periods, not just the current batch. Continue to send listings to either address.

Speaking of amusement tokens, I visited a new operation in Santa Barbara, called Golf 'n' Fun, which has its own token, inscribed with the town and state name. The tokens may be purchased for 25¢ from a machine, or 4 for a dollar from the same machine, or 25 for $5 (instead of $6.25) from an attendant. They are used in all the various pinball and other amusement devices, and for access to the miniature gold course. The machines accept only tokens, not quarters. The tokens are slightly smaller than a quarter, whereby the operator can inexpensively alter the coin acceptors to take only the tokens (a larger piece or one of significantly different thickness would require more elaborate adjustment of the acceptors). The manager there told me that about 10,000 tokens vanished in the first two months of token use, all presumably bought and not yet redeemed. Since local kids have most of these, a large proportion will ultimately be redeemed, he thought. He also reported a number of "foreign" tokens have appeared in his machines, some accepted for play, some just dropping through, and he has himself begun to put together a small collection.

The latest government "token", the S.B. Anthony dollar, is now in tentative circulation. With only half a billion of them thus far produced, it will be at least a year or two before

they become widely used, but I am convinced they will supplant the dollar bill before long, a changeover of which I personally approve heartily.

Jess Patrick, WESTS member and owner of the now dormant Patrick Mint, is opening a coin shop in Santa Rosa, in the Larkfield Shopping Center (River Rd. exit from 101, 4 mi. n. of Santa Rosa downtown). Opening day should be in August sometime, so plan on stopping by if you are in the area. The shop will be shared by Gregg Nelson, local area stamp dealer (specialist in Mexico). -SA

= SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT =
by William A. Williges

BALANCE FORWARD (see Vol. 9 #2)		$813.68
INCOME		
Renewals for 1979, 7 @7.50	52.50	
Sale of ads and back issues Ledger	20.00	
Total Income		72.50
		$ 886.18
EXPENSES		
Ledger - Vol. 9 #2, less advance	$ 70.76	
Postage (Duane Feisel)	0.90	
Postage (Wm. A. Williges)	0.60	
Dues Reminder Letters	4.32	
Advance toward Membership Roster	100.00	
Total Expenses		176.58
BALANCE ON HAND 5-28-79		$709.60

Note: This statement does not reflect any renewals, or new members reported here that came about after the date of preparation of this report.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

#221 JAMES DEISINGER, P.O. Box 147, College Point, NY 11356

REINSTATEMENT TO MEMBERSHIP

#98 CLARINE T. ROSS, P.O. Box 782, Riverdale, CA 93656
Collects: NV & CA tokens general; bottles; coins

NEW MEMBERS

#254 TOM & WANDA GEORGE, 5811 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89119. 702-736-2365. Collects: tokens; coins; railroad relics; Nevada relics; bottles

MEMBERSHIP ROSTER: - The listing of WESTS members for 1979 as of mid-June was sent out to all members in late

June or early July, or delivered at the meeting in Hawthorne. A great deal of information beyond the listing of members and their collecting interests has been presented. We can consider other additions or improvements in future rosters if you have any suggestions.

One thing--note the listing of former members. Some of these people may have dropped because of change of interest at the time, or failure to pay dues. Some of them may now be prospects for renewal. Why not ask a former member to renew? - DHF

COLLECTORS AT HEART: - Judging from the listings in the new edition of the membership roster for 1979, WESTS members collect over a wide range of interests. There are some unusual and interesting collecting specialties listed, and it may be informative to glance through the roster--you just might be surprised at what some of our members collect. I don't recall anyone listing "socks" as a specialty, but perhaps I overlooked something.

I had a lot of single socks but I didn't become a serious collector of them until 1967.

There may be a moral in this cartoon, however. When your special fields of collecting start to slow down, it might be time to consider adding a new field. Exonumia collecting offers the chance to develop a collecting specialty that no one else has yet started upon. For me, adding new items to my collection is the best way to maintain interest. If your collecting specialty is so narrow that you can add only to the collection infrequently, it may be time to expand your interests. - DHF

NEVADA TRADE TOKEN PLACE NAMES: - Out of print and in demand, a new edition of the booklet "Nevada Trade Token Place Names" is being prepared by Hal Dunn and Duane Feisel. It is expected that the new edition will be available early in the fall. - DHF

HAVE YOU HEARD OF LUM GRAY, CAL.?
by Edward Saunders

Recently I found some old pay vouchers from the Fairy Queen Mine, Siskiyou County, Cal. They carry the town name of Lum Gray, Cal.

I got these in a second-hand store in the Redding area. The town name Hornbrook was also on the voucher, but I had no idea as to where Lum Gray was located.

On my way down I talked with an old man who had once lived in Klamathon. He said he had some tokens, and he believed they were from Hornbrook. Of course, I told him I was interested in them.

When I returned, I had just picked up these vouchers, so I asked him if he knew anything about Lum Gray. He told me that is was just up the creek that runs through Hornbrook from the west. The place was located about thirty miles northwest of Hornbrook, and it was quite small.

He also told me that Thomas Jones had run a general store in Hornbrook in the late 1880's, and he would pay off the vouchers at that store. He told me more about the building and its location, but I didn't take the time to write it down as my wife was waiting for me in the car.

By the way, the man was unable to locate his tokens, but I shall return on another occasion, and who knows, he may have them then!

The old man must be at least 90 years old, and knew a lot about Hornbrook, Klamathon and other interesting places in the area. I would love to spend more time with him again. And this is some of the true fun of collecting tokens--the interesting places they can take you.

TOKEN CONVENTION: - METCA will again stage a local convention for exonumia collectors, this time on September 29 and 30 at some yet undetermined location in the Pacific Northwest. We have a lot more advance notice this time, so perhaps there will be a greater contingent of collectors from out of the local area of the convention. METCA editor Bary D. Bender, 752 N. 74th, Seattle, WA 98103, should be able to provide more definite information soon. Joining Bary in hosting the show will be Al and Nina Nystrom. Even though the previous first show was held without much advance notice, there was a good attendeance from quite a wide area. This year, with more time to plan, the show should be even better. - DHF

FAIRY QUEEN MINE,
Siskiyou County, Cal.

Not Transferable.

Lum Gray, Cal., ... *1*

Due to .....

For ..... *days' labor, month* ..... *at $* ..... *per day.* *$* .....

Less Deductions.

Board due ..... *days* - - - *$* .....

Hospital Dues - - - - - - *$* .....

Advances - - - - - - - *$* ..... *$* .....

Net amount - - - - - - - *$* .....

To THOMAS JONES,
Hornbrook, Cal.

.....
Superintendent.

= McDONALD'S SENIOR CLUB WOODEN NICKELS--AN UPDATE =

by Duane H. Feisel

In the last issue of the LEDGER, I reported on a new collecting series for McDonalds's restaurants. These are wooden nickels issued free to senior citizens which may be redeemed for food items at the time of a certain minimum purchase.

There are four different tokens in a set, usually all with a common obverse for a specific location, and with the following stock reverses:

McD-1 (black printing): Good For / One / Reg. Coffee / With 50c Or More / Purchase And Valid / McDonald's r / Senior Club / Card / Cash Value 1¢

McD-2 (green printing): (same as McD-1 except third line "Regular Fries")

McD-3 (red printing): (same as McD-1 except third line "Apple Pie")

McD-4 (blue printing): (same as McD-1 except third line "Cheeseburger")

The obverses of the different sets of tokens have certain similarities. The general form is:

WOODEN NICKEL / (GOLDEN ARCHES LOGO) / McDONALD'S / r / (street address in one, two or three lines) / (place on one line)

While it was thought that this plan might be used by McDonald's restaurants across the country, so far the only reported sets are from northern California. It is not known if this promotion is being used elsewhere, or if there are any plans for extending its use. I do know that the tokens are not yet used in Nevada, or at Lake Tahoe in California, nor very far south of San Jose. If anyone has contrary information, please report it. There are some 4500 McDonald's locations in the US, so if all, or a large percentage, started using tokens, it would make for a substantial collection!

Following is a listing of the known McDonald's sets as of this time; all are from northern California locations. Only the variable information on the obverse is listed. A place name in parentheses indicates that a set is known from that location, but that I do not have details of the inscription. Finally, there is a second listing of McDonald's locations in northern California for which tokens are not being used. Apparently, a franchised location has the option of participating or not, while

company owned locations all take part. Many of the non-participating locations, however, will redeem the tokens issued by participating restaurants. Each set contains the four different stock reverses unless otherwise noted. Thanks to Chuck Nichols, John Nicolosi, Bud Carmichael and Ruth McPheeters for supplying information which is incorporated in this listing.

For ease of use, I will list the location line(s) first although it is always the last line(s) in the variable obverse inscription.

ALAMEDA / 715 / CENTRAL / AVENUE
AUBURN / 13370 LINCOLN / WAY
BELMONT / 522 EL CAMINO / REAL
CAPITOLA / 1760 41ST AVENUE
CARMICHEL / 7329 FAIR OAKS / BLVD.
CASTRO VALLEY / 1620 STROBRIDGE
CONCORD / 4550 CLAYTON ROAD / 1691 MONUMENT (the McD-1 coffee reverse token has only the Clayton Road address)
DALY CITY / JUNIPERO SERRA / OR / SERRAMONTE / IN
DALY CITY / 505 SERRAMONTE / BLVD.
DUBLIN / 7145 DUBLIN BLVD.
EL CERRITO / 11821 SAN / PABLO AVENUE
FREMONT / 40708 GRIMMER / BLVD.
FREMONT / 4318 THORNTON / AVE.
HAYWARD / 26051 CALAROGA / AVE.
HAYWARD / 18708 HESPERIAN / BLVD.
LIVERMORE / 283 NORTH / "P" STREET
LODI / 200 W. LODI (the token with the McD-2 regular fries reverse has LODI LODI for the location)
(LOS GATOS--listing details unknown)
MANTECA / 1331 E. YOSEMITE
(MENLO PARK--see REDWOOD CITY)
MILL VALLEY / 600 REDWOOD / HIGHWAY
MOUNTAIN VIEW / 952 EL MONTE AVENUE
NEWARK / 35192 NEWARK / BLVD.
OAKLAND / 1330 JACKSON ST. / AT / 14TH ST.
OAKLAND / 6623 SAN PABLO / NEAR / ASHBY
OAKLAND / 4514 / TELEGRAPH AVE/ AT / 45TH ST.
OAKLAND / 2520 E. 12TH ST. / AT / 25TH AVE.
OAKLAND / 2901 68TH AVENUE / AT / FOOTHILL
PALO ALTO / 3128 EL CAMINO / REAL
PALO ALTO / #190 STANFORD / SHOPPING MALL
PINOLE / 1402 TARA HILL
PLEASANT HILL / 65 CONCORD AVE.
REDWOOD CITY & / MENLO PARK
ROHNERT PARK / 6600 COMMERCE
SACRAMENTO / 2312 ARDEN WAY
SACRAMENTO / 2517 DEL PASO / BLVD.
SACRAMENTO / 2320 FAIR OAKS / BLVD.
SACRAMENTO / 5525 FOLSOM BLVD.
SACRAMENTO / 2985 FREEPORT / BLVD.)
SACRAMENTO / 919 "K" STREET

SAN FRANCISCO / #2 EMBARCADERO / CENTER
SAN FRANCISCO / 609 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO / 609 MARKET STREET / AT / MONTGOMERY
(known only with the McD-4 cheeseburger reverse)
SAN FRANCISCO / 730 STANYON / AT / HAIGHT
SAN FRANCISCO / 600 VAN NESS AVE / AT / GOLDEN GATE
SAN JOSE / 898 SOUTH / BASCOM AVE.
SAN JOSE / 1365 BLOSSOM / HILL ROAD
SAN JOSE / 1142 N. / CAPITOL AVE.
SAN JOSE / 2353 McKEE ROAD
SAN JOSE / 2825 MERIDIAN
SAN JOSE / 90 EAST / SAN CARLOS
SAN JOSE / 2680 STORY ROAD
SAN JOSE / 1935 TULLY / SAN JOSE
SAN LEANDRO / 14823 EAST / 14TH STREET
SAN MATEO / 1420 SOUTH / EL CAMINO REAL
SAN PABLO / 14480 SAN PABLO / AVENUE
SANTA CLARA / 1990 EL CAMINO REAL / 3509 HOMESTEAD ROAD
SANTA CRUZ / 1421 MISSION / STREET
SANTA ROSA / 3381 / CLEVELAND AVENUE
STOCKTON / 3143 W. BENJAMIN / HOLT DRIVE
STOCKTON / 611 WEST / CHARTER WAY
STOCKTON / 8020 LOWER / SACRAMENTO ROAD
STOCKTON / 4515 PACIFIC / AVENUE
STOCKTON / 1009 NO. / WILSON WAY
SUNNYVALE / 556 EAST / EL CAMINO REAL
TRACY / 3430 TRACY BLVD.
UNION CITY / 27 UNION SQUARE
WEST SACRAMENTO / 1700 W. / CAPITOL AVE.

Non-Participating Locations

Albany
Berkeley, University at Shattuck
Berkeley, 1198 San Pablo
Cupertino, 2100 Vallco Fashion Park
Davis
Fairfield
Foster City
Fresno
Gilroy
Los Banos
Madera
North Highlands
Novato
Pacifica
Petaluma
Placerville
Roseville
Sacramento, 5008 Auburn Blvd.
San Bruno
San Francisco, 1041 Market
San Francisco, 2801 Mission
San Francisco, 441 Pine

San Jose, 2434 Almaden
San Jose, 456 Blossom Hill
San Jose, 6201 Santa Teresa Blvd.
San Jose, 1150 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Rd.
San Jose, 1435 Winchester Blvd.
San Rafael
Sunset
Vacaville
Vallejo
Walnut Creek
Woodland

Any additions, corrections or comments on these listings will be appreciated.

BOSCO OFFERS WORLD TOKENS - I recently received a 16-page list from New York dealer Paul Bosco, of which about 11 pages are devoted to tokens of the world, predominantly European. Included are the usual French and German notgeld, POW tokens, German beer tokens, Dungtauns, English condoms, and some most outlandish items such as over 200 different Danish encased postage stamps. This is certainly the most interesting list of tokens I've yet seen. There are even two pages of photos, of decent quality. And while there are only 16 pages, I should point out that each page is $8\frac{1}{2}$ x 11, crammed with three columns in minute print, though quite clear and readable. Paul' comments are both informative and entertaining, a far cry from the usual hypes with which coin dealers are wont to fill their pages.

I have visited Paul at his apartment on East 5th St., in a neighborhood known as the Lower East Side, on a block that is relatively intact, only four burnt-out buildings along the street. E. 5th and Avenue B is not the likely place for a numismatist, but an interesting place, if one doesn't mind the junkies, whores, and overwhelming sleaziness. I confess that when leaving after dark, I persuaded Paul to walk with me to the Subway, as I really didn't relish the thought of walking alone in that jungle. And as a native New Yorker, I generally feel quite at home in that city, even at 2 AM in the Subway.

His apartment, in a walk-up tenement, was an archaeologist's paradise. Although theoretically three rooms, one was so densely packed with stuff, mostlyfurniture piled on top of furniture, that it was physically impossible to enter (more recently, all this is gone, and the place now looks reasonably neat), so that only two rooms were usable. Those two rooms were quite a shambles as well, with books, mail, clothes, dishes in quite haphazard array. To be sure, it was quite an experience. But there were almost no cockroaches: when you realize that even the poshest suites must be shared with those little critters, I can only conclude that the confusion must have scared them away.

There are virtually no US tokens on the list. Paul eschews them in favor of more exotic stuff, though I have in the past acquired some interesting Western items from him. If you have an interest in European tokens, then be sure to write for a copy, at 540 East 5th St., New York NY 10009. -SA

NEW VIRGINIA AND TRUCKEE TOKEN: - In Virgina City, Nevada, the Virginia & Truckee Railroad operates a short run steam locomotive that is very popular with railroad buffs as well as the many tourists visiting the area. Maintaining a schedule with departures about every 40 minutes through the day from the end of May through the beginning of October, the locomotive draws two cars over a run of about 4 miles. There are plans to extend the length of the run over the next couple of years. The current adult fare is $1.85 for the round trip from Virginia City to tunnel 4 in Gold Hill.

A new fare token has just been placed into use. It features a view of the locomotive on the obverse, and the logo of the V&TRR on the reverse. Struck in golden bronze in heavvy 10 gauge metal, the reeded-edge 1½" diameter token may be obtained by writing the V&TRR company at P.O. Box 467, Virginia City, NV 89440. Send a check for the number of tokens desired, plus a SASE (28¢ postage for each token). I expect to have a few of the tokens available if you want to purchase from me.

A special issue in .999 fine silver, one troy ounce net weight, will be made for those placing an order and making full payment in advance. The cost will be @$20.00, and there is no restriction on the number of pieces that may be ordered by the cut-off date of August 15, 1979. Orders and payment should be sent to Duane H. Feisel, P.O. Box 1302, Los Altos, CA 94022. The silver tokens should be sent out by mid-September, and will include a time table for the V&TRR, and a color postcard showing a view of engine number 29, the locomotive also shown on the token.

There may be a few extra pieces struck beyond the advance orders. If so, they will be for sale in Virginia City at a price of at least $25.00. - DHF

= EXONUMIA IN EUROPE--1979 =

by Stephen Album

EXONUMIA IN EUROPE: 1979: - Europeans have at last discovered the pleasures of tokens and medals. This past month I attended the huge MÜnzbörse (Coin Fair) at Munich (May 5-6), which is held in the Bayernhalle at the Löwenbräu brewery, just about 1/2 mile from the central train station. The keller was jampacked with dealer's tables, for the bourse area spilled over from the main room up to the mezzanine, to several side rooms off the mezzanines, and to the entrance room and some side galleries. There were even tables set up on the staircase landings. And the crowds were often unbearably thick, for it was hard to visit all 175 or so dealers in just two short days.

While I wasn't myself purchasing any exonumia, I did make an effort to see what was around, and what was in demand. I would guess that perhaps half the dealers had some medals, mostly earlier pieces, for these have an established history of collector demand in Europe and often command huge sums. Perhaps a fourth of the dealers had modern medals as well, typically priced from a minimum of DM 5. (about $2.50) up to DM 25. And at least 30 dealers had tokens, not just notgeld, but biermarken (tavern tokens), transportation tokens, gas meter tokens, etc. These were seldom seen for sale just 3 years ago, when they were not considered as having any value or potential interest. While demand for tokens (even notgeld) is by no means heavy, it is consistent and growing. Prices for the really common items can be as low as DM.2., but most itmes seem to be in the range of DM 6. to DM 25., with some of the rarer notgeld offered into several hundreds of mark. And towards the end of the show, the token trays seemed to be far more consistently depleted than the coin trays, despite a generally healthy and active coin market in that country.

About two weeks later I visited a large numismatic firm in MÜnster, H. Dombrowski MÜnzhandlung. Dombrowski now regards tokens as an important part of his business, which now employs some 10 persons in modern, but cramped quarters along the Albersloher Weg some 4 miles from the city center. One of his employees now spends most of his time cataloguing and pricing tokens, notgeld, modern medals, etc. Dombrowski's price list, which is known as the MÜnsterische Zeitschrift für Numismatik (MÜnster Journal of Numismatics), contains several numismatic articles in each issue. Recently, a lengthy article, run in several parts, catalogued the beer tokens and other modern tokens (post-1950) of Osnabrück, a city some 75 miles north of MÜnster. Further articles will cover similar tokens from other towns in Westphalia, the state of which MÜnster is the capital.

Then it was over to England. With less opportunity to observe activity, I nonetheless did learn that most of the tavern tickets, market tokens, and similar items--the closest equivalent of our trade tokens--are now increasingly in demand, typically fetching £1 to £3.50 ($2-$5), with scarcer pieces up to £5 and more. The old days of 10 pence each are dead and gone.

BOOK REVIEW: Johan Mevius, Speciale Catalogus van de Nederlandse Gelegenheidsmunten (Special Catalogue of Dutch Commemorative Coin Medals), 1978 ed., published by Mevius Numisbooks Int.B.V., Amsterdam, Netherlands, Hfl.3,75 (about $2).

This short, 12-page booklet catalogs the quasi-official "gelegenheitsmunten' (commemorative coins, literally, but in our usage, commemorative tokens) struck at the Rijks Munt (Royal Dutch Mint). With the exception of a single issue for 's-Hertogenbosch produced in 1935, the series begins in 1975. The pieces are listed by year, the alphabetically by city under each year. For each entry, the obverse & reverse are briefly described, a photo is given, and details of "denomination", mintage, and current value are presented. I say "denomination" because all of the pieces, with a few exception, are given artificial denominations, in various units different from modern Dutch currency, such as "daalders", "florijns", "Leeuwendalers", "reals", "duits", "Denarii", "schelling", "Caroli", "coninx-tornoyses", etc., all denominations from Dutch history, usually related to the history of the local of issue.

Aside from the 1935 piece, there are 3 issues for 1975, 7 for 1976, and 12 for 1977. One one 1978 issue is included, but by year's end, some 15 pieces had been issued, and present plans call for approximately 18 issues per year. These have already gained wide popularity as a collecting species in Holland, which already has a very rich numismatic background, largely because they are inexpensive, and bear relationship to familiar facets of local history.

Mevius originally planned to include these listings in his regular annual catalogs of Dutch coinage (the Dutch equivalent of our "red Book"), but as the number of their issues proliferates, he come to conclude that a separate fascicule was more appropriate. But the fact that for two years, they were actually included in the coin catalog, shows that such exonumia are accorded a much higher status in Europe than here.

The book itself is of little use to us in the New World, unless we wish to order specimens from Holland, but is an interesting reflection of the rapidly increasing interest in exonumia all throughout Europe.

COIN MACHINE AND ANTIQUE ADVERTISING SHOW: - The first show sponsored by Loose Change Magazine is scheduled for October 5-6-7, 1979, at the Great Western Exhibit Center, Los Angeles, California. The show was originally planned for Las Vegas, but restrictive regulations by the State of Nevada pertaining to slot machines and other coin operated devices forced the change to California. The show is planned to include a large number of sellers, and according to WESTS member Stephen Alpert, who writes articles for the magazine, it is hoped that specialists in tokens will included among the exhibitors. More information later. - DHF

= CURRENT NEVADA METAL GAMING TOKENS =

by Duane H. Feisel

A new chapter in the field of gaming tokens has been opened with the return to slot tokens by many of the casinos starting in early 1979. The use of tokens was approved by the state gaming commission because it was expected that the Eisenhower dollars would disappear once the new smaller sized Anthony dollars were released. While no specific reports are yet available, it appears that many of the casinos will utilize $1 tokens, especially in slot machines.

One variation on that is a $2 face value token from John Ascauga's Nugget which is designed for use on all table games as well as slot machines. In a test of the acceptance of the gambling public of a $2 slot machine, the Nugget has converted 16 of its $1 machines to accept only the $2 token. The size is reportedly slightly smaller than the Ike dollar.

I understand that a casino in Las Vagas also has a $2 slot token, as well as a $5 denomination. It was reported to me that people are standing in line to play the $5 machines! It is not known if any other Nevada casinos will be using the $2 token, but you can be sure that if the $2 slot machine gets a big play, other casinos will soon follow suite.

While over in Nevada for our regional meeting, I visited some of the casinos along my route, and found some of the new tokens in use in Reno and Virginia City. I also found that some casinos have had tokens made, but that they have not yet placed them in use because of the current huge stockpile of Eisenhower dollars in the state. Finally, a number of casinos are considering slot tokens, but are holding off pending information on how well the public will accept the new Anthony dollar. Some people seem to think that the public will want to hear the "clunk" of the large size dollars or slot tokens in the payout buckets, and that the small size dollars (which can be mistaken easily for quarters) will not be popular. All that remains to be seen is whether or not the Eisenhower dollars will be taken out of circulation--they will if the old adage "bad money drives out good" holds true.

It may be premature to state it, but I understand that a couple of our WESTS members in Nevada are working on a catalogue of metal slot tokens, with publication perhaps a year away. They are now gathering as much information about these tokens as they can. More on this later. Quite a number of minting firms beyond Franklin Mint have made, or are making, metal slot tokens now, and the competition is fierce for the business.

FRESNO MEETING REPORT: - Temperatures well over the 100 degree mark greeted those attending the regional WESTS meeting in Clovis, California, on May 26, at the home of Dennis Scott. Fortunately, the Scott home is air conditioned, so it was quite comfortable for conducting the usual buying, selling and trading that occurs at these meetings. Attending were Dan Jacobson, Frank Earl, Larry Elman (and wife Dianna), Warren Scott, John Reynolds, Duane Feisel and host Dennis Scott. - DHF

HAWTHORE MEETING REPORT: - Once again the popular regional WESTS meeting in Hawthorne, Nevada, was a great success with a substantial number of collectors attending, and a lot of tokens changing hands. Held at the convention center of the El Capitan casino on Saturday, June 30, members came from Arizona, California and Nevada, and included Dan Jacobson, Adele Reed, Jim Rasmussen, Harold Jones, Phil Jensen, Bill Wright, Duane Feisel, Sam Michael, Mervin Mahler, Vince Beretta, Scott Jameson, Bill Williges, Bill Metscher, Lee Heath (and wife Gisela), Bill Ruddick (and wife Pearl), Jack Haddock, J. Carey Burke, Dick Ainsworth, and new members Tom & Wanda George. Some of our members were accompanied by spouses, relatives and/or friends, and not all of the names were recorded. There were also a number of non-member token collectors, some of whom we hope will become members, including John Viel, and Deber & Ada Zabiasson (not sure of that spelling!). I know that many of the non-member token collector names were not recorded, and it is even possible that some member names were missed as collectors were coming and going all day.

The activity started early at 9 AM, and collectors were still active when I departed about 3:30 PM. I came away with a box full of new material, and saw a lot more that I wish I could have been able to trade for. If there is a similar meeting held next year, and it is expected there will, I'll sure be there!

We did miss many of our Nevada collector stalwarts including Hal Dunn, Tony Erquiga, Len Hoskins, Leon Hubbard, Birney Powell and John Schilling, as well as a number of California collectors who often attend the regional meetings. Maybe next year! - DHF

= JULY MEETING IN LOS ALTOS =
by Duane H. Feisel

A combination meeting of WESTS and BATS (the Bay Area Token Society, a group oriented toward transportation and related tokens) was held on Sunday, July 15, at the home of Duane and Shannon Feisel in Los Altos, California. Things got underway early as the first arrivals unloaded boxes and cases of tokens and dug

right in. Joining in the activities were WESTS members Vincent Beretta, Frank Earl, Dan Jacobson, Virgil Wiggins, Larry Elman, Bill Williges, Benj Fauver, John Reynolds, Jim Rasmussen, John McPheeters, Jere Runciman, Jerry Schimmel, Dale Noll and Duane Feisel, together with BATS members Hal Ford, John Coffee, Mark Ford, and Erle Hanson. Finally, there were persons from the Wiggins, Reynolds, McPheeters and Feisel families.

This meeting is scheduled yearly (this was about the eighth or ninth such meeting) to coincide with the annual visit of John Coffee to the west coast. John is the editor (for over 25 years now!) of THE FARE BOX, the monthly publication of the American Vecturist Association, and the owner of one of the the largest collections of transportation tokens.

A few of the younger people enjoyed the swimming, but most of the others spent the day dealing in or talking about tokens. There was more activity in tokens than I have seen in a long time, and several sizeable deals were consumated. A buffet luncheon, topped off with chocolate whipped cream cake and ice cream, was put out in the mid-afternoon for the enjoyment of those present.

ALASKA TOKENS ANYONE? - A new publication for those interested in the exonumia of Alaska is being published by Dick Hanscom, P.O. Box 2832, Fairbanks, AK 99707. Called Alaska Token Collector and Polar Numismatist, this new publication is available by subscription at the rate of $1 for the next two issues. Issues are expected monthly.

Hanscom, owner of Numismatic Services, Inc., of Fairbanks, indicates that there will be editorials and articles relating to Alaskan tokens in addition to reports of new issues and new discoveries and of prices realized at recent auctions and mail bid sales. - DHF

NATIONAL SCRIP COLLECTORS EXPAND: - Previously concerned only with coal company scrip, and later expanded to include the tokens of lumber companies, the National Scrip Collectors Association has now again expanded its scope to include the tokens of mining and manufacturing companies. This broadens the scope sufficiently that there should be an attraction to collectors in the western states. A couple of years back I made the suggestion that NSCA expand to include the tokens of all mining companies, not just coal, but that suggestion was not accepted at that time. There are quite a number of interesting mining company tokens from the west, so perhaps that will stimulate greater interest in NSCA. Dues in the organization run $5 per year. If you want a membership application and information, send a SASE to me and it will be forthcoming. - DHF

= MILITARY TOKENS OF THE UNITED STATES = 1866-1978 - Book II

Review by Duane H. Feisel

"Military Tokens of the United States, 1866-1978, Book II," by James J. Curto, published by Michigan Exonumia Publishers, P.O. Box 1, Tecumseh, MI 49286. 116 pages, hard cover, 8½x11". Available from the publisher, #12.50, postpaid.

This book is the initial publishing effort of WESTS member Paul Cunningham, and it represents a supplement to the earlier work of Curto, published by Krause Publications in 1970. That earlier work is out of print and no longer available from the publisher.

The new work is an honest and straightforward continuation of the earlier Curto listing. Each page of listings is a double column description of tokens utilizing the format developed by Curto.

Following three pages of introductory material is a three-page listing of military abbreviations found in the legends of tokens. The listings section of 97 pages is itself broken into three sections: (1)new denominations and varieties of tokens listed in the first book, (2) completely new listings, and (3) late additions. Finally there is a single page listing of certain old military token dies know to exist from S.H. Quint's and Sons. The book is completed by three pages listing the locations of forts, camps and posts, and a useful eight page index of tokens listed in both the first book and the new second book.

Although the illustrated pieces are few in number compared to the first volume, the quality of these photographs is excellent.

While the new book has not been examined in detail, it appears that the typographical errors are relatively few in number, a distinct contrast from the first book was loaded with errors of this type!

Since the initial listing is not now available, it seems to me that a new, revised and updated catalogue would have been of much greater value than the supplement alone. I find that having to look in four places now (the old book, plus the three sections of the new book) for a listing is quite bothersome. It would have been better to combine the first two sections of listings in this new book, and to forget about the late additions.

One of the major complaints I have about the Curto

books is what I consider to be an unnatural division of the listings into categories of type of military organization, such as air field, camp, fort, post exchange, etc. I don't know of any collector who collects military tokens based on those divisions. Rather, I think most people collect on the basis of geographical location, especially those who do not specialize in military tokens but who do have an interest in the listing information. To try to find all the tokens issued by military establishments in any one state will take hours of close work. The index provided, a feature lacking in the first book, is very useful in helping to locate a listing knowing that such a listing exists.

There is really nothing wrong with the typography utilized in the catalogue, although it seems to be quite unsophisticated. For example, the large type size used for page numbers and for illustration identification could have been made smaller. There should have been a mention of the publisher on the title page. Also, I find the arrangement of the two columns side-by-side on a page to be confusing--the two columns are too close together--a few more spaces between columns would have improved greatly the legibility.

The pricing is questionable, as it is in most every priced exonumia catalogue. Perhaps the pricing is useful to dealers, but will be practically useless to collectors. But prices are needed in a catalogue to provide the appeal to dealers and to those really not collecting in the series. The prices may be a guide, but take the absolute values with a grain of salt. I do note a trend to avoid the pricing question by calling many of the older tokens "rare," but I believe that many of the priced pieces are of comparable, or even greater, rarity than some of the priced pieces. So whether a piece is priced or called "rare" is of little consequence.

Despite its deficiencies, the catalogue is the only thing available to the collector interested in this important series. The new book does a good job of continuing the earlier listings, and is well worth the price. Considerable new and supplemental information, including abbreviations and the index, as well as other features described above, increase the value of this reference. Get it while you can.

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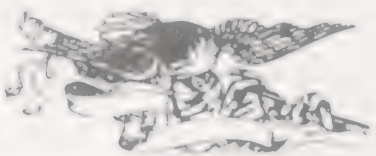

= A NEW ATTEMPT AT A WESTS MAIL BID SALE =
by Bill Williges

In issue Vol II #1 of the Ledger it was suggested that club members donate exonumia to WESTS (then CANTS) for a mail bid sale to raise money for the club. It was hoped that an additional source of revenue would delay the necessity of another raise in dues, which had just been raised to $4 from $3 due to a deficit of $12 during the Society's first year of operation.

There was a listing of 23 donated tokens in Vol II #6. Evidently there wasn't enough mail response since the actual sale was shelved until October 10, 1973, 22 months after the idea was originally proposed in the Ledger. At a semi-annual meeting connected with the coin show in Stockton, $61 was raised for the club on the sale of 38 lots, several of which were donated that day. I purchased Eld 15 C for my collection for $3.15! This was the extent of WESTS' attempts at auctioneering, though it was suggested that an auction with the donor and the club sharing the selling price might produce better results. Nothing further was done due to the lack of a volunteer to serve as mail bid sale manager, a task with extensive time demands.

Recently the idea of a WESTS mail bid sale was raised again as a means of generating interest and membership, and I have volunteered to serve as mail bid manager.

Following are the rules for consignors and bidders in the WESTS mail bid sales. It will be noted that I have the option on bidding on pieces, and will be monetarily rewarded only to the extent to which members order copies of the prices realized.

Bidding Rules

1. Bids accepted only from current members of the Western States Token Society.
2. Bid by lot number only.
3. In the event of identical bids, lots will be awarded to the bidder with the earliest postmark.
4. No buy or unlimited bids accepted.
5. Bids will be executed for you at 10% over the next highest bid, starting at a level of $10.00.
6. Terms are cash. Payment should be made within five days of receipt of lots.
7. Postage and insurance costs will be added to the invoice amount.
8. Request to return any item must be made within five days of receipt. Reasonable cause for returning a lot must be given. Check your bids--you are responsible for your bidding errors.

9. Auction closing dates will be established approximately three weeks after the mailing date of the issue of the Ledger in which the lot listing appears.
10. A listing of prices realized will be available for 50¢, any profits from this venture going to the mananger of the mail bid sale.
11. The manager of the mail bid sale may bid on lots.

Consigning Rules

A - Consignments will be accepted only from current members of the Western States Token Society. A maximum of ten items per person per sale.

B - The consignor may specify a minimum bid, but if the lot does not sell, the consignor will be charged 15% of the minimum bid specified, plus postage and insurance for return of the lot. This rule applies only to minimum bid items.

C - The consignor will be charged 15% of the sale price of his consigned exonumia, this fee going entirely into the WESTS treasury.

D - All types of exonumia are acceptable for the mail bid sale, but it is suggested that each lot should have a minimum sale value of at least $3.00.

F - All consigned material should be of sufficient interest to the membership to produce spirited bidding. The mail bid manager may exercise his judgement to withhold material he deems to be of too little value or of too limited interest.

G - Mail bid sales are connected with the Western Token Ledger; sales will close approximately three weeks after the mailing date of the issue in which the mail bid sale listing appears.

Additional rules and conditions may be imposed once I have some experience with these mail bid sales. This is a good opportunity to dispose of some of your exonumia, to help the Society, and to create more interest in the organization. Perhaps it will be possible to combine a couple of these mail bid sales with our semi-annual meetings so as to allow floor bidding as well.

IN THE CHIPS: - WESTS member Carey Burke of Las Vegas, a collector of casino gaming chips, was featured in an article which appeared in the July 1979 issue of American Collector, a publication aimed at the general field of collectibles.

The article tells about Burke's collection and how he obtains pieces for it, depicts several of the chips, and even mentions WESTS as an organization to which Burke belongs! - DHF

ORDER YOUR COPY of the lumber token book! 270 pp, hard cover, 14 pp photos. 1200 companies, 47 states listed! $13.50 to WESTS members.
Terry Trantow P.O. Box 524 Ellensburg, WA 98926

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Benj Fauver P.O. Box 521 Menlo Park, CA 94025

MILITARY TOKEN catalogue--Curto Volume 2 now available. New listings, index, new information. $13.50 postpaid.
Paul Cunningham Box One Tecumseh, MI 49286

WANTED: NEVADA, CALIFORNIA, ALASKA and Hawaii tokens or wooden nickels. Buy or trade.
J.L. McPheeters 472 W. Monterey Stockton, CA 95204

WILL BUY OR TRADE for South Dakota tokens and exonumia I can use. Also want chrome savings banks from any state. Have tokens from many states to trade. Also have a starter collection of SD tokens (over 300 diff.) for sale or trade.
Jim Rasmussen Box 214192 Sacramento, CA 95821

McDONALD'S WOODEN NICKELS wanted. Will trade sets, or will trade Sambo's wooden nickels for sets I need.
John G. Nicolosi 3002 Galindo St. Oakland, CA 94601

PLEASE EXCUSE WRONG zip code with my ad for the last issue. CA, NV and OK tokens are still available. I collect CO and NM tokens, and tokens from anywhere "good for one shave."
Lee Nott P.O. Box 3130 Fairview Heights, IL 62208

WILLIGES HAS PAID cash for 12,749 tokens and medals this year (as of 6-6-79). Many more collections and accumulations needed. Free 20 page exonumic price list.
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SILVER V&TRR FARE TOKEN, special issue, $20.00 to advance orders with full payment. Order deadline August 15, 1979. The Virginia and Truckee Railroad operates out of Virginia City, Nevada. No limit on quantity, as long as full payment with order. See article this issue.
Duane H. Feisel P.O. Box 1302 Los Altos, CA 94022

FOR TRADE OR SALE--"Havasu Dollars," commemorative coins of the London Bridge in Arizona, issued by the London Bridge Rotary Club. Will trade for tokens or coins from Alaska and Arizona. Also interested in NY World's Fair tokens and other advertising type posters.
Art Tuberman P.O. Box 1590 Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

McCARGER'S SALOON, NORD, CAL., But 62 A. Trade for transportation tokens I can use, or best cash offer over $10. Spinners, movie tokens, dairy tokens also available in trade. Nicolett, Minn., trade tokens (considered rare), several different names and denominations. Wanted: McDonald's Restaurant wooden nickels (four to a set). Some trade available. Also Sambo's wooden nickels available.
John G. Nicolosi 3002 Galindo St. Oakland, CA 94601

Members are allowed a free six-line ad in each issue. A different ad must be submitted each time. Please put your ad on a separate piece of paper, and do not include it as part of a letter. Please submit it as far as possible in advance of the publication deadline. Next issue deadline is August 15.

NEW CALIFORNIA COUNTERSTAMPED COIN: - In an auction run by Rich Hartzog about a year ago, I recognized a counterstamped coin as being from a California merchant. My bid was accordingly high, but not quite high enough as I lost the lost to another specialist in counterstamped coins. Rich was kind enough to forward my letter to the winning bidder who turned out to be an old friend back from my days in Pittsburgh, Pa. I was finally able to make a trade for the piece which I have now added to my collection.

The counterstamp, in an oval border, reads D.N. FRIESLEBEN / OROVILLE; the two lines are separated by two arrowheads in the center. The c/s occurs on a United States quarter dollar of 1861.

According to my California State Gazeteer for 1890, Daniel N. Friesleben was then the proprietor of the Union Hotel in Oroville. - DHF

Calendar of Coming Events

July 15 - Sunday. Regional meeting of Western States Token Society combined with Bay Area Token Society, home of Duane Feisel, 869 Gardenia Way, Los Altos, Ca. 11 AM to 5 PM

September 22 - Saturday. Regional WESTS meeting at the apartment complex of Vince Beretta, 6000 Greenback Lane, Sacramento, CA. Meeting in recreation room from noon until 5 PM.

September 29-30 - Saturday and Sunday. Fall Pacific Northwest Token and Medal Show of METCA. Details later. For bourse table information: Bary D. Bender, 752 N. 74th, Seattle, WA 98103.

October 5-6-7 - Friday thru Sunday. Loose Change Fun Fair, Great Western Exhibit Center, Santa Ana Freeway at Atlantic, Los Angeles, CA. 1 to 10 PM Friday and Saturday, 1 to 6 PM on Sunday.

October 27 - Saturday. Tentative. Regional WESTS meeting during the California State Numismatic Association Convention, Sheraton-Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, California. Details later.

November - Fall semi-annual membership meeting of Western States Token Society, to be held during the time of the Delta Coin Club annual convention in Stockton, California. Details later.

Other regional meetings to be added where there is sufficient local interest to schedule same.

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